

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T BONN 12688

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, GW
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE SHCHARANSKY CASE:
THE GERMAN VIEW

1. DURING A CONVERSATION JULY 10 I ASKED STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL ABOUT THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST SHCHARANSKY AND GINSBERG. HE SAID THAT STATE SECRETARY BOELLING HAD MADE A STATEMENT AT NOON ON JUNE 10 (REPORTED BY ICA) AND POINTED OUT THAT BOELLING'S STATEMENT WAS IN REACTION TO THE URGINGS OF UNDERSECRETARY CHRISTOPHER TO FRG AMBASSADOR VON STADEN.

2. VAN WELL CONTINUED THAT WE SHOULD KNOW THAT, IN HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS, MATTERS WERE RUNNING VERY POSITIVELY FROM THE GERMAN POINT OF VIEW. THE EMIGRATION OF PERSONS FROM THE USSR, CSR, POLAND AND THE GDR DURING THE FIRST SEVERAL MONTHS OF 1978 WAS RUNNING AT A
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HIGHER RATE THAN LAST YEAR AND, IF THAT RATE CONTINUED, THE TOTAL SUCH IMMIGRATION IN 1978 WOULD EXCEED THE LEVELS FOR 1977.

3. VAN WELL STATED FURTHER THAT ONE SOMETIMES OVERLOOKS THE IMMIGRATION FROM THE OUTLYING PROVINCES OF THE USSR, SUCH AS KAZAKHSTAN AND THE KIRGHIZ REPUBLIC,

OF ETHNIC (VOLGA) GERMANS WHO WERE RESETTLED THERE AFTER
WORLD WAR II. EMIGRATION OF SUCH ETHNIC GERMANS
DID NOT FALL UNDER THE FAMILY REUNION EFFORT. THESE
DEVELOPMENTS HAD A NECESSARY EFFECT ON THE ATTITUDE
OF THE FRG ON OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS.
MOREOVER, THE FRG HAD TO FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE
GDR, SUCH AS THE BAHRO AND HUEBNER CONVICTIONS.

4. THE EMBASSY LEARNED SEPARATELY
TODAY FROM RUHFUS OF THE CHANCELLERY THAT MRS.
SHCHARANSKY, THROUGH THE ISRAELIS, HAD ASKED FOR AN
APPOINTMENT TO SEE CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. THE GERMANS HAD
SAID THAT THE CHANCELLOR WAS VERY TIED UP BUT THAT
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CHANCELLERY WISCHNEWSKI WOULD
BE GLAD TO RECEIVE HER. THE GERMANS EXPECTED HER TO
COME BUT SHE SAID SHE HAD TO SEE ANOTHER HEAD OF STATE AND DID
NOT APPEAR. THE GERMANS EXPECT HER TO COME LATER AND
WISCHNEWSKI STANDS READY TO SEE HER AT ANY TIME.
STOESSEL

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